

and in that the first region faces the end of the belt and the second region faces away from the end of the belt.

A1  
2. (Amended) Material machining belt according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first region is essentially round.

Sub B2  
3. (Amended) Material machining belt according to Claim 1, characterized in that a surrounding region of elongated hole and/or at least one counterpiece is stiffened.

4. (Amended) Material machining belt according to Claim 1, characterized in that the surrounding region of at least one recess and/or at least one counterpiece is coated with a hardening agent for stiffening.

Please enter the following newly submitted claims:

5. (New) Material machining belt according to Claim 2, characterized in that a surrounding region of elongated hole and/or at least one counterpiece is stiffened.

6. (New) Material machining belt according to Claim 2, characterized in that the surrounding region of at least one recess and/or at least one counterpiece is coated with a hardening agent for stiffening.

7. (New) Material machining belt according to Claim 3, characterized in that the surrounding region of at least one recess and/or at least one counterpiece is coated with a hardening agent for stiffening.

8. (New) Material machining belt according to Claim 5, characterized in that the surrounding region of at least one recess and/or at least one counterpiece is coated with a hardening agent for stiffening.

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